PiE Alumni Scholarship Application

This document is a print-friendly version of the scholarship application provided for your convenience only. Please complete and submit your application online at https://pioneers.berkeley.edu/competition/RCScholarship/.

Description:

Pioneers in Engineering strives to provide a quality STEM educational experience for Bay Area high school students. In keeping with our mission to promote science and engineering, we are happy to announce our seventh annual PiE alumni-funded merit scholarship for students who are in their last year of high school, have participated in PiE, and are looking to pursue a post-secondary education. The scholarship is for a single $2000 award, with $500 for finalists.

The scholarship committee will review each application holistically, taking into account an applicant's merit, financial need, and personal characteristics. Merit includes an applicant's **academic achievement**, **extracurricular activities**, and **leadership skills**. Personal characteristics include an applicant's **passion** and **personal goals**. As a STEM organization, we are especially interested in the value of STEM to you and how you envision yourself impacting STEM in the future, regardless of whether you are personally pursuing a STEM career.

Schedule:

Application release	November 7th, 2026
Applications due**	March 6th, 2027
Interviews*	April 5th - 9th, 2027 (remote)
Recipient announced**	April 24th, 2027 (at PiE Final Competition)

*Interviews will be by invitation only.
**Tentative

Applicant Eligibility:

We welcome applicants pursuing all careers and fields of study, both non-STEM and STEM. Applicants must be current or past PiE participants in their last year of high school, and must intend to pursue post-secondary education (four-year, technical, vocational, etc.). For applicants considering this pathway, please elaborate in the additional information section of the application.

Application Components:

All required components of the application should be completed and submitted online

through the scholarship application portal at https://pioneers.berkeley.edu/competition/RCScholarship/.

- Scholarship application
- Unofficial transcript
    - Please request an unofficial transcript from your school counselor.
    - Upload a PDF or JPG copy of the transcript to the application portal.
- Recommendation letter - Optional but recommended
    - Please request a letter from an advocate (teacher, counselor, tutor, peer, coach, etc) who has worked with you in the past. We recommend that you approach your advocate as soon as possible to ensure that we receive the best recommendation on your behalf.
    - Submit your advocate's name, email address, and phone number through the application portal. We will notify them with instructions via email.
    - If for whatever reason the letter cannot be provided/obtained, please contact scholarship (scholarship@pierobotics.org).

Please note that we may reproduce elements of your application for PiE Alumni Scholarship promotional uses only. We will not distribute sensitive personal information from your application.

We look forward to receiving and reviewing your scholarship application.

Questions?

For any questions about the scholarship or application, contact us at scholarship@pierobotics.org.

Personal Information (all fields **required**):

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Date of birth (DD/MM/YY): _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
_____ E-Mail: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip:_____

Educational Information (all fields **required**):

High School: _____
Expected Graduation Date (MM/YY): _____
Expected GPA: _____

Demographic Information (**required**):

Gender (optional): _____
Race/Ethnicity (list all that you identify with, optional):_____
Total Household Income (provide a rough estimate, required): _____
Household Size (required): _____

Application Questions

You are expected to answer the following questions. Please submit your answer on the online application at the link provided above.

Extracurricular Activities:

Please provide a brief list of any extracurricular activities, other than PiE, in which you currently participate. List no more than 4 activities. Include:

- Activity name
- Duration (approximate start and end dates)
- Weekly Commitment (approximate hours per week)
- Role
- Short description (two sentences or fewer)

PiE-Related Activities:

Please provide a brief list of your PiE involvement for each year you participated in PiE. Include:

- Duration (approximate start and end dates)
- Weekly Commitment (approximate hours per week)
- Role
- Short description (two sentences or fewer)

Post-secondary Education:

Please provide a brief list of schools to which you have applied or intend to apply, and the degree or certification you plan to pursue. Include:

- School name
- Intended major or field (or undeclared)
- Application status

Other Scholarships:

What other scholarships have you applied to or have received? Include scholarships to which you've applied but have not heard back. If you did not apply for other scholarships, please move on to the next section. Include:

- Scholarship name
- Amount
- Short description (two sentences or fewer)
- Current status (received or pending decision)

Short Answer Questions:

Please provide a one- to two-paragraph answer (250 words or fewer) for each of the following questions.

1. What is your biggest takeaway from PiE? Describe a moment from the season that sparked personal growth and what you learned.
2. Tell us about a significant challenge you've faced or something important that didn't go according to plan. How did you manage the situation? This does not have to be about PiE.
3. What are some of your aspirations, and what inspires you to fulfill them? This does not have to be about PiE.
4. How has STEM impacted you and how will your future goals promote STEM? This does not have to be about PiE.

Additional Information (Optional):

This is an optional section (~100 words) for you to provide any supplemental information that may provide additional context for your application. Possible topics can include but are not limited to:

- Additional description of your financial situation

It is not necessary to include anything, and many applicants do not fill out this section.

PiE Alumni Scholarship: Recommendation Letter

Applicant's Name: _____

Recommender's Personal Information (all fields required):

First Name: _____	Last Name: _____
Address: _____	Home Phone: _____
_____	Email: _____
City: _____	Occupation: _____
State: _____ Zip:_____	

Instructions for Recommendation:

Your recommendation should include how long and in what context(s) you have known the applicant and why, in your opinion, they would merit this scholarship. Please limit your letter to one page. As a STEM organization, we are especially interested in how the applicant's pursuits involve science and engineering.

Please return this form to Pioneers in Engineering as an attachment to an email with the subject line "Recommendation for <Student Name>".

The deadline for submission of recommendations is March 6th, 2027 along with the application.